

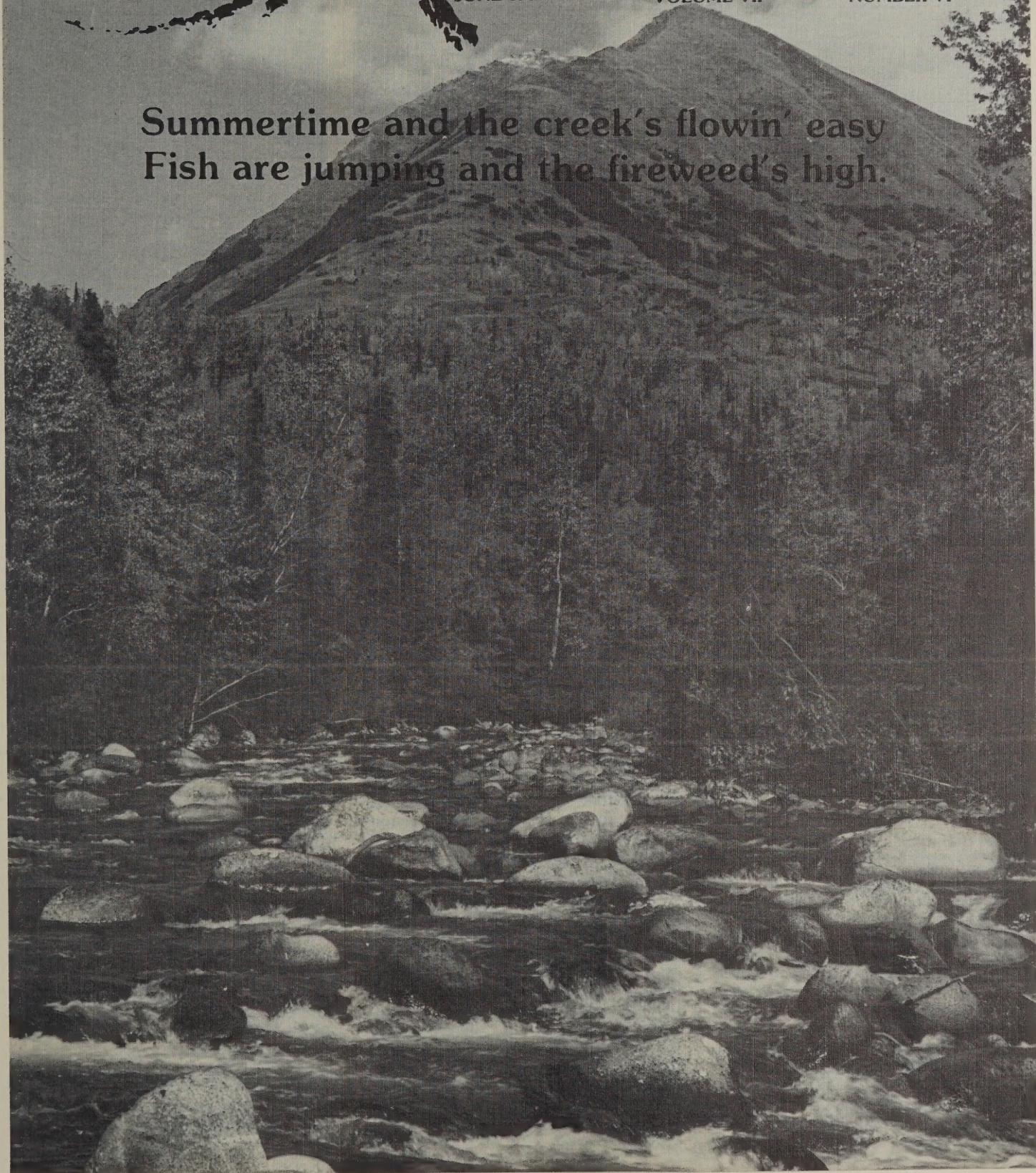
ALASKA PEOPLE

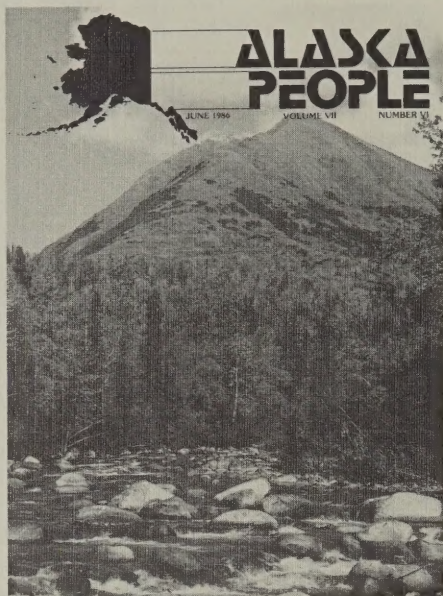
JUNE 1986

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Summertime and the creek's flowin' easy
Fish are jumping and the fireweed's high.





ON THE COVER:

After endless months of winter, Alaska once again comes alive. Conversation turns to fishing, golfing, hiking and camping as Alaskans make up for lost time.

"Good humor may be said to be one of the very best articles of dress one can wear in society."

William Makepeace Thackeray

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Meet the Management Team

Every month ALASKA PEOPLE is featuring one member of the Alaska BLM Management Team. This month, an interview with the manager of the Alaska Fire Service, Roger Trimble.

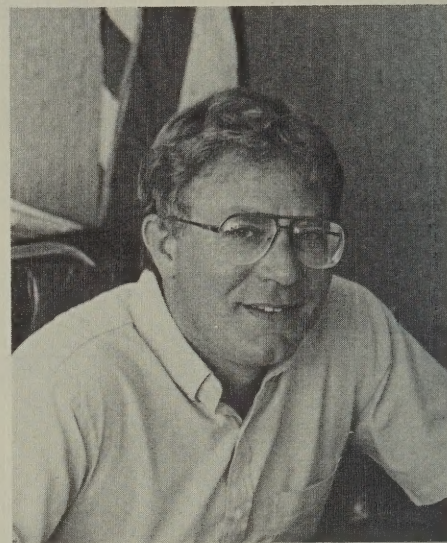
It isn't often that we say hello and good-bye in the same column, but such is the case of the current Alaska Fire Service Manager, Roger Trimble. After leading AFS since November 1983, Trimble will soon be headed to Washington D.C. to fill the fire program leader position in the Division of Fire and Aviation. "I'm driving to Haines and taking the ferry to Seattle," he says enthusiastically. "I want to enjoy all the scenery one more time before hitting the big city."

Trimble started working in Alaska in 1969 after growing up in Richland, Washington. "While attending Washington State University, I came up to Alaska to see what it was like, and three days later I had a job with BLM in McGrath," says Trimble. He spent the next two summers working helitack and fire dispatch. "At that time, there were only a few 'seasonal' hires," says Trimble. "The majority of fire fighters were casual hire and EFF."

Backtracking Trimble's career is like recording the modern history of AFS. As he entered the fire control profession, major changes began to happen. The 1969 Swanson River Fire changed the whole picture of the fire suppression organization. As an offshoot of that major fire effort, BLM was authorized seasonal hire and funding increased.

The summer of '71 also marked a turning point in Trimble's career when he was hired as a fire detection specialist by the detached Delta Resource Area. At that time, fire people in detached resource areas worked directly for the resource area manager (a practice that continued until Alaska Fire Service was formed). In 1972, the Delta Resource Area moved its headquarters to the town of Tok, and was renamed the Fortymile Resource Area, in honor of its local river. While working fire seasons in Tok from 1972-76, Trimble returned to Washington State University and earned his wildlife biology degree in 1974.

While working in the Fortymile country Trimble surveyed the area's historic sites, and established more than 100 files on roadhouses, trails, dredges, etc. He also initiated four nominations to the National Register of Historic Places and interviewed the



Roger Trimble

area's old-timers. "That was a fun job, and rewarding in the long run. Recently, a professor at the University of Alaska here in Fairbanks remembered my files, and shared them with the State Historic Preservation Officer. It's nice to know that your efforts have been remembered and have helped someone." The files have been used by many different authors to add information to their books, research papers and other documents.

In 1976 Trimble gained his first permanent position as a natural resource specialist for the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska. "BLM had just received surface management responsibilities for NPR-A," says Trimble. He monitored surface protection stipulations on permits granted to seismic drilling camps, including disposal of waste water and solid waste.

In late 1976, Trimble worked in Barrow at the Naval Arctic Research Center on stipulations for Husky Oil and other seismic contractors. "We monitored 3,800 miles of seismic lines laid by exploration companies during the winter of 1976-77."

The following spring Trimble was detailed back to the Division of Fire as branch chief of logistics (now FCC). "That was 1977, the biggest fire season in many years," he said. He was later selected to fill the position, and stayed there the next three years.

In 1980 Trimble moved to Anchorage as the principal assistant to Division of Fire and Aviation Chief Joe Kastelic. In that position he was responsible for the

continued on page 8

Norma DeBaker Chosen Outstanding Federal Employee

story & photo by Valerie Arruda

Norma DeBaker of ASO's Equal Employment Opportunity office is the winner of this year's Federal Employee of the Year Award for category II. This category includes grades GS-7 through GS-11 as well as Army/Air Force ranks of first lieutenant through captain.

"To receive this acknowledgment is a great honor," says DeBaker. "I really want to share it with all the employees who deserve to be recognized. I'd also like to thank everyone who personally came to express their warm congratulations."

DeBaker was chosen for her efforts to improve working conditions for women and minorities within the organization and for enhancing job opportunities for the handicapped, Hispanics and other minority groups.

For six years she has served as chairperson for the Hispanic/Alaska Native/American Indian Employment Program Committee for the Anchorage Federal Executive Association. Two years ago DeBaker set out to establish a chapter of IMAGE; a national organization founded to expand and develop employment opportunities for Hispanics. She is currently serving as acting president of the local chapter.

To increase cooperative education opportunities for Native American Indians, DeBaker began a project to attract high school cooperative education students to BLM.

DeBaker also works with handicapped high school students, aiding them in finding employment. For three years she has worked with Blacks in Government (BIG) in their adopt-a-student project. As a result interested students are able to shadow a black BLM employee for a day.

Through contact with the Sensory



Norma DeBaker accepts her award for Federal Employee of the Year from Eugene Rouleau, acting director of OPM.

Impairment Center, DeBaker set up a series of classes to teach BLM employees sign language, thus improving employment conditions and job opportunities for deaf people. She frequently visits college students for whom English is a second language and offers career counseling and instruction in filling out forms and job applications.

Other BLM nominees included Thursa Hayward, Dave Bieganski, Gail Ozmina, Jean Withers, Shirley Keisor and Dick Dworsky. Of these people Hayward went on as the final nominee for category I; Ozmina for category III; and Keisor for Category IV.

Congratulations to all of these outstanding employees!

Have You Moved Lately?

Had A Change In Marital Status?

Had A New Addition To The Family?

by Valerie Honeman

There are a lot of events that directly affect your personnel records and/or benefits which may have a time limitation in which you can file your request for change. An event such as a change in marital or family status may allow you to increase your life insurance coverage or change your health benefits. If you've moved lately, you should update your address for your payroll check (if received at home), bonds, W-2's and your personal emergency card. Some information, such as education level, designation of beneficiary forms, name change, etc.,

does not have time limitations involved but is just as important to update.

It is important that you carefully review all documents generated by personnel and payroll and periodically review your Official Personnel File (OPF) to ensure that all the information in your personnel records is accurate. It is a good idea to maintain your copy of all documents received from personnel; you may need them later in your career.

If you have any questions regarding your personnel records or would just like to review your OPF, please contact the Personnel Office at 271-5043.

State Health Officials Say "Think Before You Drink"

by Ed Bovy

The promise of summer means thousands of Alaskans will soon be headed into the great outdoors for work and recreation. BLMers will use some of the time to conduct necessary field studies and surveys. However, there are a variety of hazards that call for precautions, one of which is a tiny single-celled organism known as *Giardia lamblia*, or *Giardia* for short.

Most people have no doubt heard of giardiasis by now and are at least vaguely aware that drinking untreated surface water carries some risks. But many people either do not take the hazard seriously or decide to "take a chance". Contracting the disease is somewhat embarrassing, which is probably why the problem is rarely talked about, giving the impression that giardiasis is a rare occurrence.

Test your knowledge of giardiasis by taking this simple test. Answer true or false. (The answers follow.)

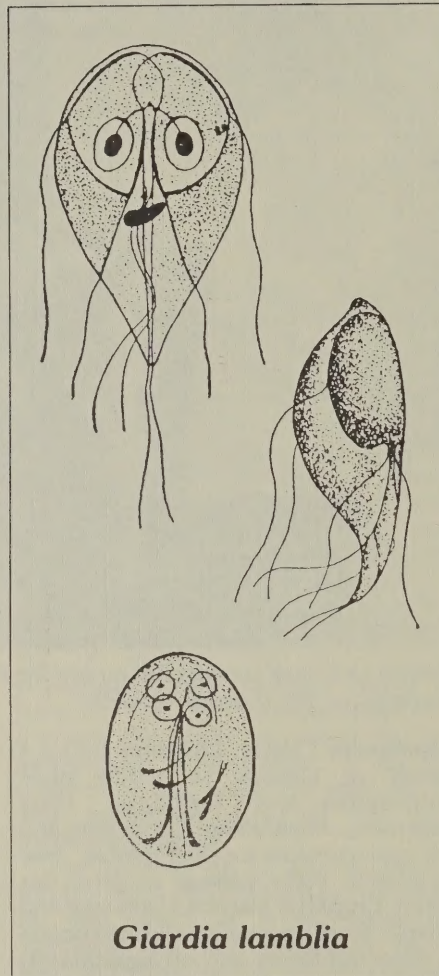
1. Giardiasis is considered a communicable disease and cases must be reported to state health authorities.
2. Giardiasis is a relatively new disease.
3. Giardiasis originated in animals and now infects humans as well.
4. Giardiasis is talked about a lot, but it is really not a problem here in Alaska.
5. *Giardia* are so small, even if I get a few inside me I probably won't get sick.
6. If I do come down with giardiasis, it is really not that bad because there are drugs available to cure me.
7. *Giardia* can't live in cold or freezing water.
8. People can have giardiasis and not even know it.
9. Children who have been infected with *Giardia* can reinfect themselves and others.
10. Giardiasis can be contracted from waters inhabited by beavers; hence the name "beaver fever."
11. Halazone tablets are a good way to treat water suspected of containing *Giardia*.
12. If I thoroughly boil my water before drinking, I won't get giardiasis.

Answers:

1. True

2. **False.** *Giardia* has evolved over a long period of time. Anton van Leeuwenhoek, the inventor of the microscope, first described them in 1681.

3. **False.** *Giardia* are thought to originate with humans or related species such as apes. Man is the primary cause for giardiasis being introduced throughout Alaska. We infected the animals due to our poor sanitation practices.



Giardia lamblia

4. **False.** State health authorities recorded 397 cases of giardiasis in the state during 1984, the first year statistics were maintained. (235 of these cases were attributed to a mass infection in Ketchikan.) In 1985 there were 232 reported cases. Southcentral and Southeast regions had the highest number of cases. The actual number of cases in the state is probably much higher since not all people are aware that giardiasis must be reported, some people do not get to a doctor for treatment, or the disease is misdiagnosed. Virtually all watersheds in the state are considered to be infected with *Giardia*.

5. **False.** *Giardia* are small alright — 16,500 cysts can fit on the head of a pin. But each multiplies by dividing, and colonies can develop inside a mammal quickly. A healthy person can become sick in one to four weeks.

6. **False.** Effects include vomiting, stomach gas, "rotten egg" burps, diarrhea, and other symptoms similar to dysentery. Does this sound like fun? Since the symptoms can appear weeks after exposure, you may find yourself on another trip far from home and unable to get medical attention. Even if you are able to get help, the cause of the sickness can be misdiagnosed and the prescribed medication ineffective while the discomfort continues. And if all that is not bad enough, even "cured" people have been known to have flare ups for months or even years later. In one unusual case in Alaska, a family of placer miners contracted giardiasis and was treated. All eventually recovered except the husband who continued to suffer the symptoms even after taking medication. It was eventually determined that the family dog was a carrier and the husband was reinfected again and again.

7. **False.** When *Giardia* are in the cyst form, they can survive quite well for more than two months in cold, icy water.

8. **True.** The number of people who are *Giardia* carriers outnumber those who exhibit the symptoms. Cysts are excreted in the stools of carriers for months, even years. We all have an obligation to observe proper sanitation practices while outdoors. Recent studies in Alaska have indicated that approximately 3.5 percent of the Native population are carriers of *Giardia*.

9. **True.** Typically, children may neglect to wash their hands after a bowel movement. Later their fingers reach their mouths while eating or playing, reintroducing the cysts into their intestines. Those who handle babies or change diapers must also be careful and wash their hands afterwards. For this reason parents should be careful that proper sanitation practices are followed at their children's day care center or when other private child care is in effect.

10. **True.** But remember that *Giardia* cysts can remain after beavers have left the area. Also, *Giardia* cysts can inhabit the digestive system of cattle, dogs, rabbits and other mammals, including humans. Many people have careless sanitation practices and entire watersheds in the remote areas can become contaminated by rain and runoff.

11. **False.** Halazone tablets tend to become less effective over time and are thought to be ineffective against giardiasis regardless of strength. Boiling is the preferred, proven method of treatment.

12. **False.** You still have to be careful. Your friends can have sloppy housekeeping practices. For example, they may not bring the water to a full boil. Remember to use treated water on your toothbrush, face cloth, and for washing dishes. Cysts can hide in the threads of a canteen cap too. Observe proper treatment practices at all times.

Scores:

12 correct: Congratulations. Now put your knowledge into practice this summer.

One or more wrong: You can contract giardiasis. Be informed. Be alert. Be careful!

Giardiasis Prevention:

The following information to help prevent giardiasis is published by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation:

Boiling

Boiling is the **ONLY** technique that can be recommended with complete confidence for eliminating *Giardia* in water. Bring water to a full boil for at least one minute. If upstream contamination from places of human habitation is suspected, boiling should continue for 20 minutes.

Chlorine

Household liquid chlorine bleach usually has 4 to 5 percent chlorine (read the label). Four drops should be added to a quart of water. Let 30 minutes pass before using. Cold or turbid water should stand for several hours, preferably overnight.

Iodine

Tincture of iodine (2% concentration) can also be used. Add 10 drops per quart of water and let stand 30 minutes. As with chlorine, cold or turbid water requires additional time to be effective.

Filters

A variety of filtering devices have appeared on the market in the last several years. Be sure the filter advertizes a pore size less than five micrometers. These types of filters require a pump apparatus to force water through the screen. If there is no pump, the screen will be ineffective.

From Anchorage To The Big Apple



Jody Reed

story & photo by Valerie Arruda

Jody Reed (ASO State Selections) sang recently at Carnegie Hall in New York with the Anchorage Community Chorus. The chorus is now in its 39th year, and Reed has been a member since 1978.

On April 30, Anchorage Community Chorus joined with the Cincinnati Boys Choir and college choruses from the Lower 48 to perform the concert IN CELEBRATION OF YOUTH. The 400-voice choir was selected from choruses across the nation to perform with the American Symphony Orchestra.

On May 4, the Anchorage group joined with choruses from Alabama,

Nebraska, Colorado, Massachusetts, Texas, and Wisconsin to sing in the All American Choral Gala at Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center.

The invitation to sing in New York developed after a member of the Mid-America Production Company of New York heard the chorus sing in Kansas City at the American Choral Directors Association Convention. The success of that performance led them to be the first choral group from Alaska to perform in either of these prestigious halls and the only one ever to sing in both halls in one week.

The chorus is a mixed group of 160 singers from all walks of life and is affiliated with Anchorage Community College. Membership is by audition only, and there are waiting lists for some vocal parts. The chorus presents annual spring and winter concerts and performs for various local organizations such as the Pioneer Home and the Anchorage Senior Citizen Center. Performances with the Anchorage Festival of Music have enabled the chorus to sing with well-known guest conductors each summer, including Dave Brubeck and Robert Shaw.

The next major event for the singers is the annual Winter Concert in December at West High School. In 1987 they will travel to British Columbia for a concert with the Victoria B.C. Symphony.

Landfill Plat Signed

photo by Valerie Arruda



Fran Eickbush (2nd from left), deputy director for cadastral survey, signs a cadastral plat for the new Municipal landfill at Fort Richardson. Looking on are (l to r) Bill Kryger, solid waste engineer with the Municipality's Dept. of Solid Waste Services; Bob Keene, surveyor for Kean and Associates; and Joel Grunwaldt, director of Solid Waste Services.

OFFICE GLUE: ADO Secretaries

story & photos by Danielle Allen

Laurie Riesterer was excited as she walked back to her desk. It had been a long day for Riesterer, secretary for the Division of Resources; but it had been worthwhile. The autodialer (a modem allowing any Wang user telecommunication capabilities) had just been installed, and she was largely responsible for its installation.

The young, blond woman sat down at her desk, quickly poured herself a cup of coffee and marveled at how two months of frustration had come to an end. Getting the electronic mail (a Wang automation feature) to work had almost become an obsession. For several weeks she, BLM and Wang computer specialists had tinkered with the computer system. What troubled her even more was the BLM Fairbanks and state offices were using the feature while the Anchorage District and its Glennallen Resource Area office could not.

During that time, between tracking the division budget, preparing correspondence, time sheets, travel papers and doing other duties, she repeatedly checked the Wang's system software and hardware on the advice of the computer specialists. Initial visits and consultations by these specialists resulted in few clues. Eventually, the modem, the declared culprit, was later replaced with the autodialer. Her efforts typify the unspoken tasks secretaries and typists take on each day.

There is nothing typical about a secretary's day, according to Lorna Koop, secretary for the Division of Operations. "We're like the maid, butler and servant, and I don't mean it in a negative sense." Koop, a small, intense and outspoken woman, explains her duties. "I do all the administrative functions — timesheets, tracking and coordinating training, spread sheets, personnel actions, typing, budget, travel, answering phones and distributing mail.

"I never wanted to be a secretary," says Koop, "I wanted to be a teacher. But now I just love what I do." She wants the secretaries to be more informed and involved with the decision-making process. She says, "If we knew more about what we're typing, we can do a better job." She would also like more responsibility.

Another person who shares her views is Lynne Stamey, Koop's office mate. Stamey is Operations' clerk-

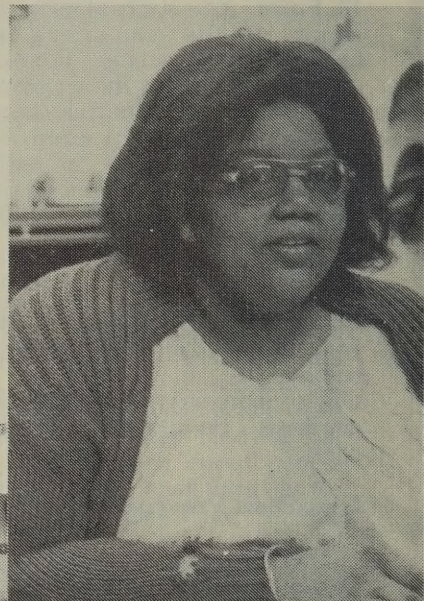
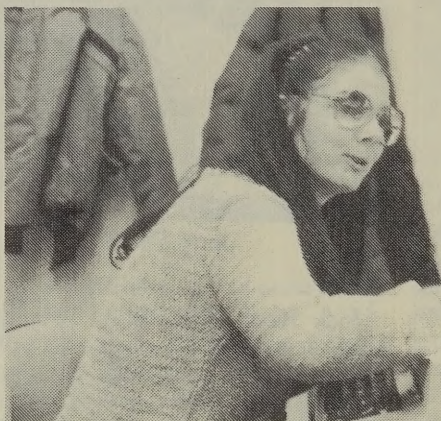
typist. This long-haired brunette is usually found at her Wang surrounded by cat pictures while jazz tunes permeate the air. Stamey didn't learn to type until she was 28 and says, "If we were given more responsibility, we'd feel better about our work. Let's face it, there is a large amount of boring and repetitious work done by secretaries. The job could be improved by combining additional duties, such as working in the public room for half-days."

Additional duties for Beverly Napageak, secretary for the Division of Minerals, include the occasional handling and typing of sensitive oil

company findings. "Proprietary information is typed and filed on a disk and stored in a safe," says Napageak.

It's hard to believe the fragile-looking Napageak was a nurse for 15 years before becoming a secretary. Although the unassuming Napageak has the hurried pace of a nurse, she prefers secretarial work to nursing because of the 'human hours'. "I don't have to work holidays, nights and weekends," she said.

Thomie Gardner, clerk-typist for the McGrath Resource Area, says with a hearty laugh that her career aspirations didn't include secretarial work. She had her eye on bigger things, such as a



es Hold The Office Together



(clockwise from upper left) Lynne Stamey, Division of Operations; Thomie Gardner, McGrath Resource Area; Vicki Johnson, DM staff secretary; Nancy Jones, Peninsula Resource Area; Beverly Napageak, Division of Minerals; Laurie Riesterer, Division of Resources; and Lorna Koop, Division of Operations

supervisory or managerial position.

For added challenge, the gentle-natured Gardner supplements her clerical duties by leading the district's Federal Womens Program. She has been commended for the coordination of many successful FWP events.

"Being a secretary does give you the ability to improve. By meeting and working with people, you learn about areas where you can advance," says Gardner.

Nancy Jones, the fieriest secretary for Peninsula Resource Area, has her own opinion about advancement. "I don't necessarily see a secretarial job as a stepping stone for other jobs. Anyone

who's made it got out of the secretarial field."

The diminutive Jones says she would have been a lousy nurse and was too short to be a school teacher. But she returned to work after being a homemaker for 20 years because, "I love the work and I love to type."

About 187 miles northeast of Anchorage Betty Hall works as a clerk-typist for the Glennallen Resource Area office. In an office where the employees are known for their individuality, Hall feels right at home in her part-time position. "I work with seven nice men. They're all very different people, and best of all no one smokes," she said.

Hall describes herself as honest and hardworking, but the added responsibilities she recently assumed when the office assistant position was vacated has put a strain on her usually cheerful personality. She'll be relieved when she can share vehicle reports, personnel actions and other miscellaneous duties with the new office manager.

Vicki Johnson, the Anchorage district manager's secretary, is the newest secretary on the block. The quick-witted Johnson, a state office transferee who is a stickler for efficiency, says, "Word processing on the Wang is being utilized to its maximum. It's improved our performance by allowing us to get work done quicker and more efficiently." But she thinks the clerical staff should use the electronic mail and other features more often.

Laurie Riesterer concurs. "We utilize our word processing system, but we need to integrate that function with more sophisticated programs. We have to be able to grow."

Riesterer says she never wanted to be a secretary because her mom was one. "She had so many responsibilities and such low pay. It's strange, because now I'm a secretary."

Riesterer would like the attitudes toward secretaries to change. She says that many people have old fashioned ideas of what a secretary does. "I don't think we're considered professionals. Many think of a secretary as a woman who types and answers the phone," says Riesterer. "Management assistant or office manager is more descriptive of what we do."

Koop thinks attitudes also hinder many employees. "They won't use a word processor or computer because they are associated with clerical duties. It's unfortunate."

For a group of women who didn't plan on being secretaries, they all express satisfaction in what they do. All agreed that a pay raise (except for Vicki Johnson — she wanted her own Wang) would improve their jobs. What they like best about their jobs is summed up by Stamey, "I like the people, social interaction and physical location."

The camaraderie among the secretaries is quite evident. "When a secretary is gone, it's great how other secretaries back her up and help each other. The work has to get done," says Riesterer. And it's that type of attitude which makes these nine women so very special.

Cathy Bayer Is Glennallen's New Realty Specialist

"I look forward to living and working in the Glennallen area," says Cathy Bayer, Glennallen's new realty specialist. "I love to fish, backpack and cross country ski."

Having worked in ASO's navigability section for the past one and a half years, Bayer looks forward to getting out in the field. A large part of her workload will involve the Slana settlement area. She will also be busy with rights-of-way and land-use planning.

Bayer has a bachelor of arts degree in anthropology. She started as a temporary archeologist for BLM in 1979 in Folsom, California and a year later was hired on full time with the Phoenix District.

In an effort to diversify her skills, in 1983 she attended the Phoenix lands school and was assigned to Kingman Resource Area after finishing her training. "The Glennallen Resource

Area is ten miles farther away from the Anchorage District Office than the Kingman office was from the Phoenix office," says Bayer. Although she was primarily a realty specialist in Kingman, her job also involved cultural resource work.

"I always wanted to come to Alaska and received a lot of encouragement from my fellow employees in Kingman, several of whom had worked in Alaska."

In November 1984, she joined ASO's Navigability Section in the Branch of Conveyance Services as a realty specialist.

"It's been very valuable to see how the State Office works, however I love the field work and look forward to the chance to have more public contact. I will be living in government housing in Gakona which is 18 miles northeast of Glennallen.



Cathy Bayer

continued from page 2

fire budget in Alaska, cooperative agreements statewide, and field operations which included day-to-day interfacing with fire field operations.

"It was during that time that the concept of an Alaska Fire Service was developed," Trimble says, "Dick O'Connell, Joe Kastelic and I spent days, nights, weekends--even Thanksgiving Day--working on the project. From the initial approval of the concept by the State Director, through the buy-off by Washington Office in 1981, to the final implementation in the winter of 1982-83 took almost three years." Trimble then served on the key transition team implementing and orchestrating the transition of the fire organization from divisions in the Fairbanks and Anchorage district offices to its independent status, answering to ASO. "I've been in several rewarding projects during my career with BLM," Trimble says, "but the establishment of AFS is perhaps the high point."

Trimble spends what little quiet time he has in his favorite pursuits of hunting and fishing--especially salt water fishing.

He recently spent every night and weekend for a month refurbishing his 23-foot cabin cruiser--then hauled it to Valdez for a regenerating weekend on the water. "Right now it is sitting in the water, gently swaying back and forth, calling me," he says. In Washington D.C., he will be close to the water again and will undoubtedly find a way to go fishing.

The most important and enjoyable aspects of the AFS organization, in Trimble's opinion, are its openness, teamwork and "can-do" attitude. In other words...its people. "We often lead the fire community nationally. There is no question in my mind that we have the best smokejumper program in world.

"In the Alaska fire organization more than in any other regional area, an individual is given more responsibility than he or she would receive anywhere else."

As he leaves his position of AFS Manager, Trimble predicts, "The future will be an era of more intensive on-the-ground management in Alaska--and Alaska Fire Service will be in tune with that."

There will also be increased cross-use of AFS personnel within BLM and for other agencies. There are many requests being submitted already for special projects, such as one from the Forest Service, requesting the assistance of the hot shot crews in conducting prescribed burns.

Another exciting project coming in the near future is the establishment of an interagency facility at Bettles. The BLM, Park Service and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service will co-locate in one office, and share many of their activities, such as warehousing and equipment. The final agreement has been forwarded to State Director Mike Penfold for signing.

Trimble will be missed by many in Fairbanks. His secretary, Bev Lujan,

declares, "Roger is an outstanding person, and a great boss to work for. He makes everyone, no matter what their job--feel important to AFS."

Trimble has enjoyed his time in Fairbanks. He likes the size of the town and its frontier atmosphere, the people and their individuality. "For the size it is, Fairbanks offers a lot," he says. "A person can fulfill any interest they may have--maybe not on a grand scale, but always on some scale. I'm basically a small town person--Anchorage is the largest city I've ever lived in--so it is going to be a real adjustment to live in the Washington D.C. area.

"The Alaska program encourages people to grow in leadership by giving them authority and responsibility and the chance to prove themselves," says Trimble. "This is obvious when you look at the incredibly high number of leaders in the nationwide fire program who started out in Alaska."

As living proof of his own theory, Trimble will join the ranks of nationwide management on August 24 when he becomes fire program leader within the Division of Fire and Aviation, under the Assistant Director for Support Services in the BLM Washington Office. Trimble sees three components to his new position. He will be involved in national-level fire agreements, national-level fire budget and program policy and guidance with field assistance and evaluation.

Good luck in your new job Roger!

First Automated Base Produced For Master Title Plats

story & photo by Jane Mangus

Gust Panos was smiling with special satisfaction. "I got this job during the first year that I came to work here as a cartographic technician in the photogrammetry branch," he said.

Title and Land Status Section had identified 5,000 master title plats that were either deteriorating physically or were based on outdated hydrographic information.

Panos was given the job of updating the protraction diagrams that form the base for master title plats. Protraction diagrams are made by "protracting" or extending unsurveyed land lines to represent public land subdivisions.

A protraction diagram shows two kinds of information. It shows the rectangular survey system of townships and ranges and sections that have been mathematically calculated for the entire state of Alaska and the theoretical locations of where the rectangular grid should be on the ground.

"What we end up with," says John Roberts of cadastral, "is a minimal map showing the hydrography (rivers and lakes larger than a certain size), plus the survey grid."

Each master title plat covers a single township. Some 1,254 townships were selected as the first batch to revise for master title plats; but before they could make new master title plats, they had to amend the protraction diagrams, which are the official bases for the plats.

Panos took the newest USGS inch-to-the-mile maps and added hydrographic information from NASA infra-red satellite photos of Alaska. These photos were so close to the scale of the USGS maps that Panos was able to put each map on top of a NASA photo on a light table and then revise the map manually.

"It got to be a drag toward the end of the project," says Panos, "but I did learn something about Alaska's rivers." He prepared 302 of these maps.

Next, acting as a contractor's representative, he sent the photo-revised maps to a contractor in Salt Lake City who digitized the hydrography. Panos went over all of it to quality-check the data. He had to send it back three times to be redone.

At this point, Title and Land Status detailed Terry Hobbs and Dave Bieganski to help Panos with the next stage of the project. They processed the data through a computer to get the final two end products.



Fran Eickbush, deputy director for cadastral survey, signs the first of eight amended protraction diagrams to be used as bases for master title plats. Looking on are Gust Panos from the Branch of Photogrammetry and Don Beck, Dwayne Blacketer and John Roberts from cadastral survey.

"It was roadblock after roadblock," says Panos. When we first went into our assigned room, it was nothing but a bunch of boxes. But we worked out a way to process the information through the computer, and these guys ended up writing a complete user's manual.

"They even developed a tape library system that's quick and easy to use. They've now trained other people in Title and Land Status how to process the digitized data."

The computers produced two products. The first of these was the updated protraction diagrams for the cadastral survey division. Then as soon as the chief of cadastral survey approved these, the photogrammetry

branch could make the second product, the automated base for an unsurveyed master title plat.

After the computer work was finished, cadastral's cartography section checked for any errors or problems. Dwayne Blacketer then produced computer plots and collar information for the outside border of each diagram. The collar shows the description, location, and date of the diagram.

"I was thrilled when we finally got one approved," Panos said. "To see Fran sign one seemed like a miracle of perseverance. It was the first automated protraction diagram made in Alaska."

Do You Know What These Acronyms Stand For?

ADM
ADO
ADP

AFO
AM
AMP

AO
ASAP
ASD

ASO
AWP
BIFC

CFR
CY

Answers on page 10

Cinco DeMayo In Alaska

"Cinco de Mayo," the fifth of May, celebrates the Mexican victory over French Imperial troops near Puebla, Mexico, and the declaration of independence from France under the rule of Emperor Maximillian II of Austria. The first president of the new Republic of Mexico was Benito Juarez.

With a "Bienvenido," State Director Mike Penfold welcomed BLMers, family and friends to the Cinco de Mayo fiesta at the Villa Restaurant in Eagle River.

The Anchorage fiesta was celebrated with lots of Mexican food, door prizes and dancing. Bertha Diaz Preciado and John Lewis, Jr., demonstrated the traditional "Mexican Hat Dance" with staccatos of tapping heels. The toast of the evening was "Salud, pesetas, y amor. Y, tiempo para gustarlos," — "Health, wealth and love. And time to enjoy them."

In Fairbanks a festive air permeated

the room as AFS and FDO personnel filtered in following the aroma of Mexican food prepared for the celebration.

Beverly Lujan, Hispanic employment program coordinator, and her committee members Helen Doeding, Charlene Heat and Doretha Amouak, sponsored and coordinated the observance activities. Everyone attending enjoyed the incredible variety of food and the distinctive strains of Mexican music as they examined the display of items from Mexico brought in by people from the two offices.

Sharon Durgan Wilson presented a slide show on Tulum, an ancient Mayan ruin on the east coast of the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico, illustrating information on many aspects of the Maya Indian culture of a thousand years ago.



Bertha Diaz Preciado and John Lewis, Jr., demonstrate the Mexican Hat Dance.

==Diamond Debbie Does It Again==



Debbie Thomas

story & photo by Jane Mangus

Debbie Thomas (ASO Division of Conveyances), had a hard time deciphering exactly what had happened when her husband called her at work recently. It was only after she told him to "slow down," that he managed to tell her.

She'd won a contest.

"Well," she said, "which one?" Debbie is a contesteer - she enters every contest she sees.

"It's the Reader's Digest contest - you won the grand prize!" he said.

Thomas, mail and file clerk in the document processing section was the grand prize winner in a \$100,000 national contest. "My husband's name was on it, but I was the one who filled out the forms," she said.

The contest was based on a number the Reader's Digest sent her in the mail. "You had to put the numbers in boxes and total them together," she remembers. Thomas got the highest total to win the grand prize.

Is her husband happy? "He's happy. He's very happy. He was glad I signed up for the contest instead of throwing the entry in the garbage like he told me to."

However, instead of money, Thomas and her husband will get prizes worth \$100,000. They will receive a car, a silver fox jacket, a trip to Hawaii, and many other prizes. "It will take about six to eight months before the prizes start to come in," Thomas says. "We don't plan to keep all the prizes." For instance, they're going to sell the Cadillac and probably some other prizes because, "I already have a house full of stuff."

Thomas has been entering contests for about five years. "It took me five years to win things!" she says. But once she started winning, there was no

holding her back. Last year she won diamonds from the Diner's Club Sweepstakes contest. In another contest two year ago, she won a Trans-Am car.

Right now, though, the thing she's getting most of is a lot of requests from other BLM employees to enter contests for them.

"I'll do it, too!" she says. "If they'll give me a stamped, addressed envelope and the forms, I'll fill it out for them."

Meanwhile, she is still entering more contests herself. Thomas laughs, "I'm still trying to win \$10 million in the Publisher's Clearing House contest."

Answers

To Acronym Quiz:

- ADM - Associate District Manager
- ADO - Anchorage District Office
- ADP - Automatic Data Processing
- AFO - All Field Offices
- AM - Area Manager
- AMP - Allotment Management Plan
- AO - Administrative Officer
- ASAP - As Soon As Possible
- ASD - Associate State Director
- ASO - Alaska State Office
- AWP - Annual Work Plan
- BIFC - Boise Interagency Fire Center
- CFR - Code of Federal Regulations
- CY - Calendar Year

AFS Has New Warehouse

by Susan Swartz

As I walked into Alaska Fire Service's new warehouse, my eyes lifted up and up to finally catch sight of the ceiling. My mouth dropped open in amazement. "Wow, this looks like a real warehouse, a professional operation," I said to no one in particular.

The first impression comes from the impact of row after row of ceiling-high shelving, all neatly stacked. During a grand tour of the facility, Dede Domingos, chief of the branch of supply, showed me the extra-wide aisles that allow forklifts to load materials.

To the north side of the building, an open space running the width of the building will soon be filled with long tables so that crews can put together emergency firefighter (EFF) and smokejumper packs in assembly-line fashion.

A large metal platform scale set into the warehouse floor is capable of holding an entire cage or pallet of material, and the weight can be read on a digital panel on the wall. While used mainly for aircraft cargo, I quickly discovered it weighs innocent bystanders, too.

The receiving office is located adjacent to three overhead doors through which all deliveries to the warehouse are made. Another long-awaited room is the secure storage room for valuable items, such as radio kits, guns, etc. Unfortunately, with all the efficiency of the new storage system, a few of the old buildings still have to be used to store large bulk times such as C-rations, retardant pumps, and EFF packs after they are built.



"If I want to check something out of the warehouse, how do I go about it?" I asked. Domingos replied, "Just step up to this window and show Jim Rustad your requisition. He will screen the order for accuracy and send one copy upstairs to the office for automated issue. While waiting he will pick the item off the shelf, then marry it with the automated issue paper. You then sign for the item and depart. This may seem to be a slower process for the procurer, but it allows us to keep accurate counts on cost and stock status."

The new carpeted offices are a real morale builder and a dream come true. On the landing is an alcove which will soon contain the highspeed printer. Its presence means that the staff will no longer have to go to another building to

get a printout on warehouse stock.

Construction on the long-awaited new warehouse began last fall, and the crew moved in on April 7. The \$1,365,744 contract was very close to the estimated time and cost of completion. "For that size contract, we did real well," says Bob Boyce, contracting representative.

Echoing my initial reaction, Domingos raved on about the new facility. "It's terrific," she said. "Although we'd still like to have everything under one roof, this layout makes it much easier to get the job done. It eliminates a lot of frustration, and we can keep track of all the stores much more efficiently. I love it!"

Keeping The District And City Clean

story & photo by Danielle Allen

Although cigarettes, beer bottles and cans were the most common trash items collected by Anchorage district employees during the recent district cleanup on May 9, other things like a stripped motorcycle and a box of racy books found their way into the two five-ton trucks needed to haul away the trash.

Employees policed the surrounding district office grounds, Campbell Tract airstrip, Abbott Loop and 68th Avenue roads. Brisk, drizzly weather encouraged the employees to work at

record speed and complete their trash collection in less than one hour.

Throughout the following week the Branch of Field Services lent the Municipality of Anchorage a hand with their cleanup by dispatching a five-ton truck to collect trash bags within the Eagle River to Potter Marsh areas. With an average of 4,000-5,000 pounds a load, 10 trips were made to the Municipal dump.

Bob Evans, services manager says, "We do this every year. It's BLM's contribution to the Municipal cleanup."



Wayne Boden, Anchorage district manager, and Dick Vernimen, assistant district manager, clean up.

A Week Outdoors At Outdoor Week

by Danielle Allen

Last year it was a little black bear prancing through the woods at BLM's Campbell Tract which captured the interest of the sixth graders attending Outdoor Week. Although the furried fellow refused to make an appearance this year, environmental education presentations made by specialists from various private, state and federal agencies kept the students engaged.

This year marks the 12th Outdoor Week sponsored by BLM's Anchorage District Office and the Anchorage School District. From May 19-23, sixth grade students were bussed daily to a staging site on the Campbell Tract where they played supervised games or watched a demonstration. At 10:15 a.m. formal instruction began with the assignment of classes to one of four trails. Four to five learning sessions are situated on each trail. During the course of the day classes hiked the trails, visited each learning station for 25 minutes and participated in various

activities designed to demonstrate an aspect of the environment or natural resource management. The program concluded at 1 p.m.

More than 2,400 students attended the program during the week. For many students it was a first time experience. One student asked, "Can I come out here with my parents?"

BLM district employees gave the following presentations during Outdoor Week:

- map and compass (Dave Moberaten, Bill Brown)

- land use planning (Gary Seitz, Carl Neufelder)

- edible plants (Joette Storm)

- gold panning (Carl Persson)

In past years coordination and preparation for Outdoor Week was done by the district public affairs staff. This year the Peninsula Resource Area was given that responsibility, and Dave Moberaten was assigned project leader. He was affectionately dubbed "Mr. Outdoor Week," and his enthusiasm and efforts were greatly appreciated.

Personal Notes

In a recent postcard to Elaine Barankiewicz (910), **Steve Pody** writes: Greetings from Zaire! I've been enjoying some beautiful scenery in this part of the world. I'm presently at the southern end of Kim Province. It's a land of high adventure, and I'm learning and doing all sorts of new and interesting things. I'm learning French, and have already gone through a motorcycle course. In a few weeks I will be taking a trip to see wild mountain gorillas. The people here are very friendly and quick with a smile or

WELCOME ABOARD

Robert Moore, Safety/Occupational Health Specialist, ASO Division of Administration

MOVING ON

Norma Bahr, Clerk typist, ASO Division of Minerals

Douglas Schiler, Maintenance Mechanic, AFS

Phillip Brease, Geologist, ADO, Glennallen

ACCOLADES

SPECIAL ACT AWARD

Bernard Bensen, Cartographic Technician, ASO Division of Operations

Fronna Snelson, Statistical Assistant, ASO Division of Administration

SUSTAINED SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE AWARD

Barbara J. Quartermass, Clerk typist, ASO Division of Administration

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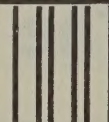


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